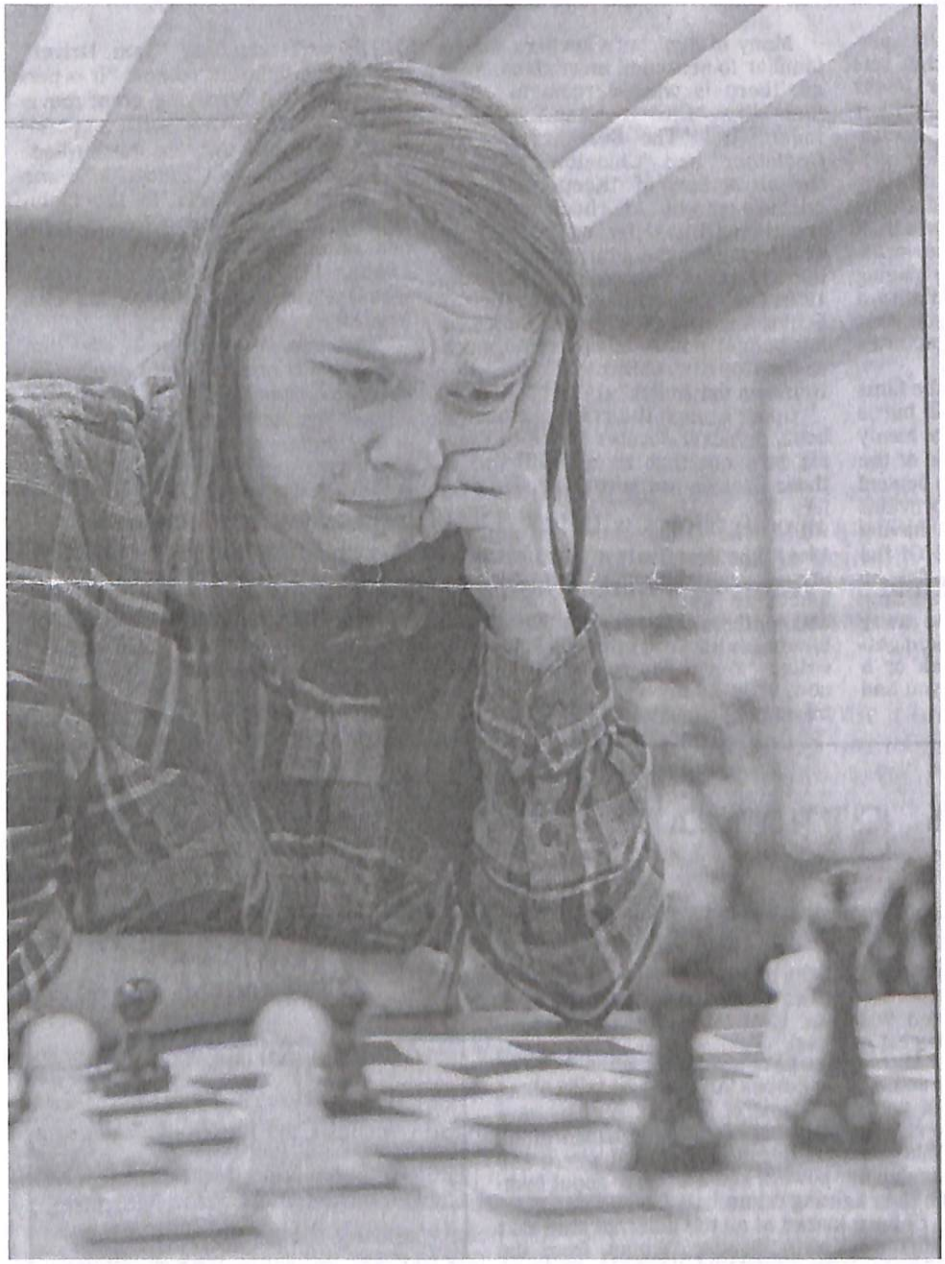
TAFT TALK

No. 69 *Newsletter of the Taft Family Association* Dec 2015



Madelaine Taft of Buckland ponders her next move during her match against Erin Snell of Warwick at the weekly Greenfield Library Chess Club

The Recorder, Greenfield, MA
27 Jun 2015
Article by Kathleen McKiernan, photo by Mark Burkhartt

A study in concentration or consternation, but definitely focused

At the weekly Greenfield Library Chess Club a local reporter met up with Madelaine and her father Horace Taft of Buckland, MA. The article states "Each game is different: players of all skill levels

(A Study cont see p 4)

Thoughts from TTT headquarters

In the continuing discussions of the Taft Family Association and its research, three members: Edwin G. Taft, Jennifer Warren, and Connie Larrabee Roe, have expressed interest in helping. The most recent permutations revolve around how to get our research and information on the Internet so others can easily access our databases. That does bring up the question of whether we want people to be able to see everything we have, or whether that depth of information should be limited to TFA members. Any thoughts?

Our members write

Phyllis J. Baker writes that she is the great-granddaughter of Asa Delos Taft, her grandfather was Isaac Cyrene Taft, and her mother was Ethel Taft Croft who had eight children. Phyllis says she is the only one left and she is 91 – awesome! Asa Delos Taft was the son of John Whitney (Asa, Silas, Stephen, Benjamin, Robert) Taft.

Linda Newberry (and my apologies for writing your last name as "Kingsbury") sends us her Christmas letter chock full of information on her family's activities during the year. She notes that their local Genealogy Society, of which she is secretary, is made up almost entirely of senior citizens (a familiar plight for many of us – first with the composition of our societies, and second with the aging of ourselves). Linda has been participating in craft shows with her "Doll Clothes by Linda" business, featuring 18" American Girl doll clothing as her specialty. Their family has had more than its share of physical ailments over the years and this year is no different; however, it is amazing what good humor and perseverance Linda and her family show in overcoming their travails. We really hope the coming year is easier on your family, Linda.

Roy Henry writes that if Nick and Kathy Lester, or anyone else, visits Uxbridge, he would be happy to assist them – Roy certainly is one of our go-to people in the area. He pointed out there is a Seth Taft in Prospect Cemetery in Uxbridge who was born 8 Apr 1797 and died 15 Nov 1867. He also noted that there are 313 Tafts buried in that cemetery. Actually there are even more than 313 Tafts. See p. 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9.

In Memoriam

Charles Henry "Chuck" Carr

Our sincere condolences to Betty Carr who wrote to tell us that her husband Charles Carr has died.

Charles Henry "Chuck" Carr was born 20 Apr 1934 in Flint, MI, son of Cecil Charles and Linnie Margaret (Borgmann) Carr, and died 20 Jan 2015 in Flint, MI, where they had been spending their summers at her son's home. Chuck Carr married Betty June (Taft) Mills 30 Aug 1974 in Flint, MI, after her first marriage to George Edward Mills ended. Betty's home is in AuGres, MI. Betty's son Lee Howard Mills of Holly, MI sent us an item about the Taft Memorial Highway (1930) which we printed in TTT 37 (May 1999) p 2. Betty June Taft was the daughter of Orvle Jesse (Jesse Prince, Ethan Arthur, Jesse, Mijamin Mowry, Nathan, Mijamin, Benjamin, Robert) Taft.

James Pildner, right, and "Dan" Taft, left, both members of a local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution presented an Independence Day program to campers at the Sheldon Calvary Camp in North Kingsville, OH.

Photo from ohssardispach.wordpress.com: article by Warren Dillaway

Our Tafts remember their ancestors and our American History

Challenged by Becky Grothe who saw this photo in her paper (The Oklahoman on 4 Jul 2015), we set to work to find "Dan Taft" of Kingsville, OH. This particular photo has been found in many newspapers around the country with the same notations.

We have found not Dan, but Don Taft, who fits the bill, and has in fact corresponded with TTT in the past. He has a brother David but not a brother Dan, so we don't have brothers being confused with each other. Another article with photos indicated that Don Taft and Jim Pildner were both members of the Northeastern OH Chapter 12 Sons of the American Revolution and were also members of the NE OH Chapter Color guard who participated in the 6th Annual Fields of Honor program in North Kingsville

Don, not Dan, Taft is actually Donald Eugene Taft who was born 8 Jul 1940 and lives in Kingsville, OH. Donald Eugene Taft was the son of Arthur Eugene (Loren Elmer, Clark Corbin, Adolphus, Timothy, Timothy, Jacob, Israel, Robert, Robert) Taft.

Taft, Eastern Samar, Eastern Visayan Islands, Philippines

In our wanderings, we have discovered several Taft communities around the world. Taft is considered a fourth class municipality and partially urban. It is bounded on the east by the Philippine Sea, on the north by the town of Can-avid and on the south by Sulat, and is divided into 24 political regions, or "barangays." In 2010 the population of the town was between 10,066 and 17,183 (depending on the source) and is one of the ancient "pueblos." It was originally called Malinaw, after the river; but since the river caused heavy floods during the rainy season, people called in Tubig (which means water in "Waray-Waray"). No surprise its name was changed in honor of Pres. William Howard Taft when the Philippines was a territory of the United States. In the 2004 elections Diego Lim and his running mate Nestor Cebreros defeated the incumbents Francisco Atsing Adalim and Cornelio Adel. After protests were filed in court, the decision was reversed as the judge found that "most of the ballots counted in favor of Lim were tampered with." Among sites in the area to visit are Milan Falls, which you reach through a jungle hike; caving; and the Dangkalan Adventure Pacific Beach Resort. A youtube video shows Brgy. San Luis, Taft, Eastern Samar with neatly organized streets, church, school, cemetery and cockpit arena, surrounded by fields and jungles.

Sources: En.wikipedia.org; www.zamboanga.com, youtube

A study cont from p. 1

gather weekly... Horace Taft of Buckland deployed his pieces on the chessboard, took a bite out of his chicken salad and set the timer to 50 minutes. Deliberately he moved his pawn forward one square. And, the game of chess commences. 'After five to six moves, you're probably playing a position you've never played before,' said Taft. 'There's more possible positions on a chess board than the stars in the universe. You never play the same game twice.' Taft moved to Franklin County last summer from Minnesota. To meet people, he picked up chess again, a game he had played for many years. Every Wednesday, Taft goes to the Greenfield Public Library, where a group of 8-10 people gather to play.... Madaline Taft usually plays with her father and brother. 'The variety of people is good and the variety of skills is good,' she said."

Horace Dutton Taft-Ferguson was born in 1962, the son of Horace Dwight and Mary Jane (Badger) Taft and the great-grandson of Pres. William Howard Taft. He married Martha Palmer Ferguson, daughter of Robert H. M. Ferguson,and great-granddaughter of Judge Learned Hand of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in Manhattan from 1939-1951. Horace graduated from the Taft School and Hamline University in St. Paul, MN. Horace Dwight Taft was the son of Sen. Robert Alphonso (Pres. William Howard, Alphonso, Peter Rawson, Aaron, Peter, Joseph, Robert) Taft.

Prospect Hill Cemetery Gravestones of Taft Family Members (cont. on p 5)

(source: FindAGrave, especially Allison Franks information

Surname	Given	Dates	Bro	Father
ALDRICH	Alma H (Taft)	1851 – 2 May 1923	T	Sullivan Harkness (1822)
ALEXANDER	Jane Ellen (Taft)	4 Apr 1836 – 28 Aug 1900	T	Arnold (1794)
ALLEN	Azubah (Taft)	25 Jun 1803 – 15 Jul 1834	J	Willis (1765)
ARNOLD	Susan Margery (Taft)	19 Feb 1827- 1 Apr 1850	J	Robert Gibbs (1799)
BAYLIES	Abigail (Taft)	1759 – 24 May 1822	D	Japhet (1721)
BENNETT	Margaret Stoddard (Taft)	14 Nov 1818 – 9 May 1875	D	Bezaleel (1780)
BENSON	Chloe (Taft)	7 Jul 1785 – 27 Apr 1826	R	Easeman (1763)
BROWN	Sarah (Taft)	2 Nov 1783 – 12 Nov 1808	D	Bezaleel (1750)
BUFFUM	Hannah (Taft)	29 Sep 1789 – 7 Jul 1860	J	Joseph (1751)
CAPRON	Minerva Lucretia "Minnie" (Taft)	10 Aug 1839 – 10 Sep 1891	R	Orsmus (1795)
CARPENTER	Charlotte (Taft)	21 Oct 1791 – 27 Jan 1862	T	Micajah (1766)
CHAPIN	Clarissa Wood (Taft)	3 May 1810 – 13 Jul 1873	J	Luke (1783)
CHAPIN	Eunice (Taft)	28 Jan 1775 – 30 May 1861	D	Bezaleel (1750)
CHAPIN	Olive (Taft)	16 Apr 1770 – 3 May 1839	R	Jacob (1725)
CHAPIN	Ruth (Taft)	19 Feb 1739 – 29 Jun 1797	J	Moses (1712)
CLAYTON	Urana (Taft)	25 Jan 1831 – 22 May 1865	T	Ezra (1797)
DAVIS	Polly (Taft)	11 Jan 1800 – 21 Apr 1878	T	David (1770)
DAY	Abby (Taft)	7 Jun 1793 – 19 Jul 1880	R	Frederick (1759)
ELLISON	Emogene (Taft)	26 Jul 1869 – 1 Jul 1923	T	Adin Ballou (1831)
EMERSON	Mercy Ann (Taft)	14 Jan 1834 – 8 Oct 1879	T	Thomas (1797)
FARNUM	Chloe M (Taft)	5 Feb 1823 – 29 Dec 1916	J	Luke (1783)
FARNUM	Hopestill (Taft)	1777 – 23 Apr 1821	D	Daniel (1751)
FARNUM	Lois (Taft)	28 Apr 1757 – 10 Feb 1792	R	Jacob (1725)
FISHER	Zilpha (Taft)	1 Jul 1772 – 2 Feb 1848	J	James (1738)
GREENHAIGH – HAUGH	Patricia A (Taft)	15 Apr 1923 – 5 Dec 2012	T	Robert (1876)
GROUT	Alice Isabel (Taft)	2 Jun 1858 – 10 Apr 1879	R	John Read (1826)
GROUT	Mrs. Rhoda (Taft)	4 Feb 1753 – 4 May 1837	J	Aaron (1727)
HALL	Chloe Ann (Taft)	23 Aug 1827 – 2 Aug 1902	R	Samuel (1782)
HAMER	Dora M (Taft)	9 Oct 1905 – 15 Sep 1987	R	Robert (1875)
HAYWARD	Susan H (Taft)	5 Jan 1843 – 20 Jan 1878	J	Moses (1812)
HOBBS	Chloe (Taft)	25 Jul 1842 – 17 Nov 1861	T	David W (1801)
HORTON	Adaline Emery (Taft)	29 Nov 1834 – 2 May 1905	B	Eber (1787)
HOWARD	Lucy Benson (Taft)	31 Mar 1817 – 26 Sep 1892	T	Elkanah (1784)

S. B. Taft Block revisited

Roy Henry sent us more information on the S. B. Taft Block in Uxbridge, MA. The building which housed the Taft brothers grocery firm, as written about in TTT 48 (Jun 2005) p 2, was originally built for Samuel Burton Taft, Esq. by Albert Francis Henry. S. B. Taft was born 2 Nov 1865 in Mendon, MA (MAVR 179.180), son of Samuel Harkness and Watee Elizabeth (Wood) Taft and the brother of Frederick C. and Silas Taft (both of whom were owners of the grocery firm Taft brothers), and died in 1921 in Uxbridge, MA (MAVR 75.154). Samuel Harkness Taft was the son of Thomas, Thomas, Thomas, Thomas, Robert) Taft.

The original building housed the grocery store of the Taft Brothers with the Blackstone National Bank located at the south end. In 1906 there was an enormous fire in the center of Uxbridge. Christian Gredig's building burned to the ground. The fire destroyed the S. B. Taft block and the Goldthwaite Block. Gredig at once began laying plans for a new two-story brick building. Taft also rebuilt with brick. The Goldthwaite Block was not rebuilt. The two new buildings still stand today. Many of the bank's books and papers were burned, but all the cash and valuable documents were in the vault. The paper money was partially burned but was replaced by the federal government.

The new brick building was built by Albert Francis Henry, uncle of Roy Henry (who is also a Taft descendant). Albert was the son of Albert Francis and Alice Jane (Holbrook) Henry and the brother of Walter Edward Henry (Roy's father), and was educated in the local public schools. At first he worked on the home farm and then went to work for his uncle H. C. Chickering of Dover, who was a carpenter. After two years he returned to Uxbridge where he worked for Charles Paddock, a contractor and builder. By 1907 he was considered a very successful, and the youngest, contractor in that area, and had already built a large number of dwelling houses in Uxbridge, Millville and Whitinsville as well as the bank building in Uxbridge. He had a reputation for "fair dealing in business, for uprightness and liberality with his employees."

Photo: Enwikipedia; information: Worcester County, MA Memoirs vol I-II

Prospect Hill Cemetery Gravestones of Taft Family Members (cont. from p. 4, cont. on pp. 6

KEITH	Deborah (Taft)	20 Feb 1728 – 11 Apr 1806	R	Robert (1697)
KOLLETT	Maxine E (Taft)	15 Jul 1909 – 2 Jun 1968	T	Frederick Cyrus (1868)
LEE	Louisa (Taft)	7 Apr 1817 – 17 Mar 1889	R	Murdock (1784)
MOODY / NEWELL	Olive (Taft)	29 Jun 1918 – 15 Feb 1986	T	Harold Seagrave / Burton (1894)
MOWRY	Clarinda (Taft)	28 Feb 1789 – 11 Apr 1877	R	Frederic (1759)
MURDOCK	Esther (Taft)	5 Aug 1786 – 10 Aug 1858	J	James (1738)
MURDOCK	Sarah Wood (Taft)	6 Jan 1838 – 23 May 1927	J	Moses (1812)
PATTERSON	Louisa Margaret (Taft)	7 Apr 1811 – 16 Nov 1839	D	Bezaleel (1780)
RAWSON	Pearl Elizabeth (Taft)	1 Mar 1903 – 2 Nov 1996	T	Robert (1875)
RHODES	Abigail (Taft)	24 Jan 1791 – 14 May 1837	J	James (1738)
SAYLES	Ada Melissa (Taft)	1858 – 14 Dec 1928	T	Henry Millens (1834)
SEAGRAVE	Julia Emily (Taft)	6 Feb 1807 – 10 Dec 1882	J	Darius (1763)
SEAGRAVE	Lois (Taft)	27 Aug 1780 – 27 Apr 1854	R	Jacob (1751)
SEAGRAVE	Lucy (Taft)	24 Apr 1795 – 21 Jun 1847	J	Moses (1760)
SEAGRAVE	Mary (Taft)	23 Sep 1790 – 8 Jan 1874	D	Josiah (1758)
SLATE	Jennie (Taft)	1864 – 1952	T	Artemas K (1828)
SNOWLING	Hannah L (Taft)	5 Feb 1856 – 13 Jan 1927	J	Albert L (1823)
SOUTHWICK	Betsey Willard (Taft)	28 Nov 1816 – 25 Jul 1898	T	Arnold (1794)
SPALDING	Amanda W (Taft)	14 Feb 1819 – 27 Aug 1896	R	Murdock (1784)

Prospect Hill Cemetery Gravestones of Taft Family Members (cont. from p. 5, cont. on p. 7)

SPALDING	Irene C (Taft)	19 Feb 1809 – 2 Apr 1878	R	Murdock (1784)
SPRING	Eunice (Taft)	? – 11 Oct 1827	D	Josiah (1733)
SPRING	Lydia (Taft)	1 Dec 1772 – 15 Mar 1838	D	Daniel (1751)
STETSON	Lucy Caroline (Taft)	12 May 1826 – 29 Oct 1906	R	Warner (1789)
SULLIVAN	Bertha Ines (Taft)	7 Aug 1875 – 7 Jun 1945	J	Bezaleel (1838)
TAFT	Aaron	12 Apr 1727 – 5 Nov 1805	J	Joseph (1680)
TAFT	Abbie Elizabeth Rawson (Wheelock)	20 Sep 1832 – 15 Apr 1908	R	w/o Ellis Chandler (1831)
TAFT	Abby "Nabby" (Taft)	7 Jun 1793 – 12 Jun 1863	T	Micajah (1766)
TAFT	Abby A (Wheelock)	14 Jan 1826 – 12 Jun 1901	R	Jacob (1823)
TAFT	Abigail	? - ?		
TAFT	Abigail (Wood)	29 Aug 1761 – 2 Jun 1851	R	w/o Frederick (1759)
TAFT	Abigail (Taft)	5 Oct 1754 – 12 Aug 1775	D	w/o Bezaleel (1750)
TAFT	Abigail (Bennett)	22 Jul 1779 – 9 Feb 1853	J	w/o Zadock (1763)
TAFT	Abigail (Read)	12 Dec 1736 – 24 Feb 1816	J	w/o Gershom (1739)
TAFT	Abigail	5 Dec 1777 – 24 Sep 1778	D	Bezaleel (1750)
TAFT	Abigail (Marsh)	? – 11 Oct 1795	T	w/o Joseph (1724)
TAFT	Abigail C	14 Jan 1854 – 27 Mar 1854	J	Zadock Arnold (1817)
TAFT	Abigail Caroline	21 Apr 1807 – 14 Dec 1830	J	Zadock (1763)
TAFT	Lieut Abner	28 Dec 1736 – 30 May 1809	J	Moses (1713)
TAFT	Adna	28 Nov 1800 – 11 Oct 1870	J	Darius (1863)
TAFT	Adolphus Baylies	2 Jun 1832 – 22 Oct 1832	R	Orsmus (1795)
TAFT	Agnes Elizabeth	31 Aug 1852 - 23 Apr 1864	R	Jacob (1823)
TAFT	Albert Eugene	13 Aug 1852 – 19 Aug 1866	T	Artemas K (1828)
TAFT	Albert F	? – 20 Dec 1839	T	Artemas K (1828)
TAFT	Alice Bradford	26 Oct 1841 – 7 Nov 1855	J	Augustine Calvin (1817)
TAFT	Alice Isabella	21 Mar 1864 – 20 Sep 1868	R	Jacob (1823)
TAFT	Amadison	? – 8 Feb 1846	D	Sylvenus (1802)
TAFT	Amariah	19 Sep 1807 – 28 Aug 1873	J	Oliver (1777)
TAFT	Amey	8 Oct 1778 – 22 Mar 1860	J	Thaddeus (1757)
TAFT	Amos Craggin	15 Jul 1787 – 28 Jul 1826	J	Willis (1765)
TAFT	Annette E	23 Mar 1859 – 7 May 1934	R	Samuel (1822)
TAFT	Arba Legg	25 May 1824 – 19 Aug 1827	R	Warner (1789)
TAFT	Ariadne L (Jefferson / Jepherson)	21 Apr 1837 – 26 Mar 1914	D	w/o Henry Gordon (1832)
TAFT	Arnold A	1 May 1858 – 22 Feb 1865	J	Zadock Arnold (1817)
TAFT	Artemas	May 1828 – 28 Dec 1878	T	Ezra (1797)
TAFT	Arthur R	19 Feb 1859 – 21 Aug 1914	R	Robert (1819)
TAFT	Asenath (Cummings)	16 Dec 1773 – 17 Jun 1855	J	w/o David (1770)
TAFT	Asenath (Thayer)	7 Dec 1769 – 22 Jul 1824	T	w/o Leonard (1767)
TAFT	Asenath Cummings	29 Jul 1819 – 12 Dec 1823	T	Timothy (1796)
TAFT	Aseneth C	29 Jun 1833 – 16 Feb 1850	T	David W (1801)
TAFT	Augustine Calvin	11 May 1817 – 17 Feb 1857	J	Chandler (1792)
TAFT	Augustus Chesenden	24 Apr 1845 – 6 Oct 1845	J	Robert Gibbs (1799)
TAFT	Austin	1 Mar 1822 – 3 Sep 1844	T	Ezra (1797)
TAFT	Azubah Craggin	13 Apr 1837 – 23 Sep 1839	J	Adna (1801)
TAFT	Bailey	19 Jul 1790 – 1 Aug 1871	D	Japheth (1768)
TAFT	Benjamin	6 May 1800 – 17 Oct 1828	T	Cummings (1770)
TAFT	Benjamin	10 Aug 1798 – 30 May 1799	T	Cummings (1770)
TAFT	Benjamin Clark	17 May 1790 – 24 Apr 1857	J	Calvin (1765)
TAFT	Bezaleel	8 Apr 1838 – 17 Feb 1911	J	Samuel 2d (1790)
TAFT	Bezaleel	3 Nov 1750 – 21 Jun 1839	D	Josiah (1709)
TAFT	Bezaleel	8 Sep 1780 – 16 Jul 1846	D	Bezaleel (1750)
TAFT	Caleb	20 Dec 1786 – 3 Nov 1805	D	Bezaleel (1750)
TAFT	Calista Clirana	17 Mar 1813 – 18 Oct 1815	R	Samuel (1782)
TAFT	Capt. Calvin	17 Nov 1765 – 12 Feb 1816	J	Gershom (1739)
TAFT	Carl D	1906 – 1960	T	Frederick Cyrus (1869)
TAFT	Carlton Wood	22 Oct 1894 – 3 Jan 1919	T	William Jefferson (1860)
TAFT	Chandler	29 May 1792 – 15 Nov 1881	J	Calvin (1765)
TAFT	Charles Augustus	12 Nov 1825 – 31 Mar 1904	T	Timothy (1796)
TAFT	Charles F	? – 18 Jan 1854	R	Murdock (1784)
TAFT	Charles Fremont	6 Nov 1856 – 1898	T	Sullivan Harkness (1822)
TAFT	Charles M	? – 6 Apr 1843	J	Newell (1804)
TAFT	Charlotte	27 Aug 1774 – 21 Jan 1777	T	Noah (1728)
TAFT	Charlotte Dorothy (Wing)	1905 – 1933	No	w/o James John (1900)

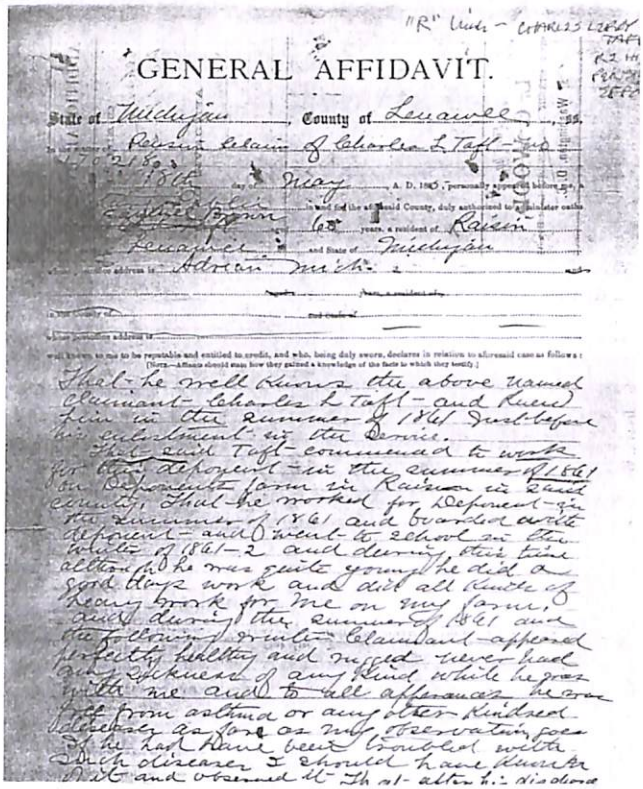
Prospect Hill Cemetery Gravestones of Taft Family Members (cont. from p. 6, cont. on p. 9)

TAFT	Charlotte Elizabeth	31 Jul 1825 - 28 Feb 1909	R	Orsmus (1795)
TAFT	Chloe (Bates)	? – 21 Dec 1839	J	w/o Amos Craggin (1787)
TAFT	Chloe (Taft)	? – 24 Nov 1841	D	Jotham (1748)
TAFT	Clirana	14 Apr 1822 – 22 Jul 1822	R	Samuel (1782)
TAFT	Cummings	27 Aug 1770 – 22 Jun 1841	T	Joseph (1724)
TAFT	Curtis George	23 Jun 1904 – 1 Mar 1906	T	Silas (1871)
TAFT	Dandridge	1 Aug 1787 – 10 Aug 1832	R	Samuel (1735)
TAFT	Daniel Waldo	26 Jul 1833 – 27 Jul 1906	R	Orsmus (1795)
TAFT	Daniel Wendell	10 Jun 1873 – 20 Jul 1938	R	Daniel Waldo (1833)
TAFT	Darius	29 Sep 1763 – 18 Feb 1838	J	Abner (1736)
TAFT	Darius C	May 1835 – 4 Nov 1881	T	Ezra (1797)
TAFT	David	14 Aug 1770 – 5 May 1832	T	Noah (1728)
TAFT	David	1804 – 5 Sep 1875	T	David (1770)
TAFT	Donald F	1953 – 2 May 1973	D	Robert Alderman (1933)
TAFT	Dorcas (Keith)	2 Apr 1799 – 9 Mar 1884	J	w/o Samuel (1790)
TAFT	Earl D	21 Aug 1906- 5 Aug 1960	T	Frederick Cyrus (1868)
TAFT	Earle H	15 Jan 1868 – 22 Sep 1929	D	Henry Royal (1839)
TAFT	Eastman	16 Jun 1763 – 29 Apr 1829	R	Jacob (1725)
TAFT	Eliza Luthera (Scott)	3 Jan 1818 – 21 Aug 1905	J	w/o Seth (1797)
TAFT	Eliza Maria (Taft)	11 Apr 1810 – 24 Oct 1856	J	Zadock (1763)
TAFT	Elizabeth (Cheney)	21 Sep 1707 – 21 Sep 1783	J	w/o Peter (1715)
TAFT	Elizabeth (Cumings / Cummings)	? – 27 Aug 1770	T	w/o Joseph (1724)
TAFT	Elizabeth (Emerson)	6 Mar 1687 – 10 Mar 1760	J	w/o Joseph (1680)
TAFT	Elizabeth (Southwick)	14 Mar 1834 – 24 Oct 1898	T	w/o Charles Augustus (1825)
TAFT	Ella Williams (Giles)	1865 – 1929	T	w/o William Jefferson (1860)
TAFT	Ellen Bowen	3 Mar 1850 – 30 Sep 1923	T	Charles Augustus (1825)
TAFT	Ellen Maria	8 Dec 1836 – 13 Sep 1916	R	Samuel (1790)
TAFT	Ellis Chandler	1837 – 26 May 1896	T	James Madison (1809)
TAFT	Emeline Newell (Taft)	25 Apr 1822 – 28 Nov 1896	J	Timothy (1796)
TAFT	Emma (Craggin)	12 May 1799 – 28 Jul 1861	J	w/o Adna (1801)
TAFT	Emma (Spring)	1837 – 21 Mar 1894	D	w/o Lewis Spring (1820)
TAFT	Emma Elizabeth	19 Dec 1851 – 12 Oct 1903	T	Charles Augustus (1825)
TAFT	Emma J (Forbush)	28 Dec 1854 – 12 Apr 1939	J	w/o George Zadock (1850)
TAFT	Ena (Robinson)	1906 – 1977	T	w/o Earl D (1906)
TAFT	Esther (Marsh)	28 Jun 1726 – 14 Mar 1802	R	w/o Jacob (1725)
TAFT	Esther (Taft)	9 Jan 1748 – 3 Feb 1834	J	w/o James (1738)
TAFT	Esther M (Aldrich)	4 Oct 1931 – 2 Feb 2014	D	w/o Robert Alderman (1933)
TAFT	Experience (Humes)	27 May 1750 – 14 Jan 1837	R	w/o Samuel (1735)
TAFT	Ezekiel	21 Jan 1777 – 24 Apr 1821	J	James (1738)
TAFT	Ezra	6 Mar 1793 – 19 Feb 1808	R	Easman (1763)
TAFT	Ezra	13 May 1797 – 16 Nov 1878	T	Cummings (1770)
TAFT	Francis Amariah	18 Sep 1837 – 28 Jul 1848	J	Amariah (1807)
TAFT	Francis M	12 Jul 1835 – 12 Jan 1882	B	Eber (1787)
TAFT	Frank W	1851 - 1884	R	John Read (1826)
TAFT	Fred E	2 Jul 1855 – 25 Jan 1875	R	Jacob (1823)
TAFT	Frederic C	16 Feb 1868 – 5 Nov 1914	T	Samuel Harkness (1828)
TAFT	Frederic E	21 Jan 1848 - 4 Sep 1880	R	John Read (1826)
TAFT	Frederick Esq	19 Jun 1759 – 10 Feb 1846	R	Samuel (1735)
TAFT	Frederick Eugene "Freddie"	7 Dec 1861 – 18 Jul 1870	F	Henry Gordon (1832)
TAFT	General Putnam	24 Feb 1836 – 23 May 1894	T	Reuben (1791)
TAFT	George S	26 Dec 1836 – 23 May 1894	D	Bezaleel (1780)
TAFT	George Spring	14 Nov 1859 – 30 Apr 1940	D	Henry Gordon (1832)
TAFT	George Spring	14 Sep 1822 – 17 Sep 1823	D	Bezaleel (1780)
TAFT	George Washington	13 May 1823 – 24 Jan 1903	J	Oliver (1777)
TAFT	George Z	17 Aug 1850 – 6 Apr 1911	J	Zadock Arnold (1817)
TAFT	Deacon Gershom	20 Oct 1739 – 28 Apr 1813	J	Peter (1715)
TAFT	Gladys Crocker	22 Mar 1901 – 22 Sep 1903	T	Silas (1871)
TAFT	Hannah (Keith / Keath)	17 Jul 1753 – 2 Apr 1842	J	w/o Joseph (1751)
TAFT	Hanna (Spring)	18 May 1797 – 24 Oct 1877	D	w/o Bezaleel (1780)
TAFT	Hannah (Cook)	29 Sep 1695 – 2 Aug 1771	T	w/o Joseph (1693)
TAFT	Hannah (Rawson)	19 Jun 1810 – 11 Jul 1875	T	w/o Henry (1819)
TAFT	Hannah	(1803) – 8 Jan 1843	J	Newell (1804)
TAFT	Hannah (Taft)	1 Nov 1763 – 2 Jul 1832	T	Joseph (1724)
TAFT	Hannah Jane	17 Nov 1839 – 7 Apr 1848	T	Ezra (1797)
TAFT	Hannah Maria (White)	10 Feb 1835 – 26 Jan 1911	T	w/o General Putman (1836)
TAFT	Hannah Tillinghast	28 Jan 1803 – 13 Jan 1879	J	Zadock (1763)

A Civil War Pension is a battle itself

Over the years Elberta Taft Kartisek, who sent us this information from official government documents, has communicated with us in her efforts to connect her "Charles Taft" with the family. In TTT 24 (May 1993) p 5, there were two candidates suggested, but eventually one was found to have died young. By TTT 44 (Aug 2003) p 3 there was no doubt that her Charles Taft was Charles Leroy Taft who was born 6 Feb 1845 in Montague, MA, son of George Washington and Candace (Pierce) Taft, and who died 26 Jan 1902 in St. Louis, Gratiot, MI. He married Elizabeth Justina "Lizzie" Brown on 28 Nov 1872 in Raisen Valley, Lenawee, MI, daughter of John C. and Julia (Gates) Brown. They had three children: Martha May, Gertrude, and Ralph George Taft. Charles Taft, farmer, was also sheriff of St. Louis, MI for many years. George Washington Taft was the son of Lyman (Samuel, Israel, Robert, Robert) Taft.

Charles Taft enlisted at Raisen Valley, MI on 28 Jul 1862 to serve for three years in the 4th Regt. of MI Volunteers. He was still a minor so his guardian, Walter Anderson, was named as well. He was listed as born in Montague, MA, farmer, aged 19y5m with blue eyes, dark hair, light complexion, and 5'6-1/4" tall.



GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of Michigan, County of Lenawee, ss.

Personally appeared before me, a Notary Public in and for said County, this 6th day of May, A. D. 1865, Samuel Brown, aged 60 years, a resident of Raisin in the County of Lenawee and State of Michigan, who being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a citizen of the United States, and that his post-office address is Raisen Mich.

That he well knows the above named claimant - Charles L Taft - and knew him in the summer of 1861 just before his enlistment in the service.

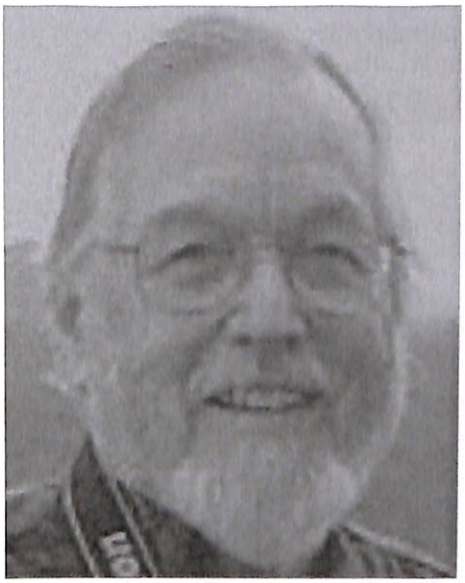
That said Taft commenced to work for deponent in the summer of 1861 on deponent's farm in Raisin in said county, that he worked for deponent in the summer of 1861 and boarded with deponent and went to school in the winter of 1861-2 and during this time although he was quite young he did a good days work and did all kinds of heavy work for me on my farm, and during the summer of 1861 and the following winter claimant appeared perfectly healthy and rugged never had any sickness of any kind while he was with me and to all appearances he was free from asthma or any other kindred diseases as far as my observation goes. If he had been troubled with such disease I should have known of it and observed it - Th at after his discharge the first time he came to my house and made his home with me and at that time he was perfectly healthy and was free from asthma or other disease. That during the summer of 1863 he worked a farm near me and I occasionaly saw him until his enlistment again in the fall of 1863 and up to said enlistment in fall of 1863 I knew him to be perfectly healthy and free from asthma and like diseases.

Charles Taft as a private under Capt. Charles Moulton in Co. B of the 6th MI Regt of US Vols. received a certificate of disability for discharge from the US Army on 23 Jul 1865 in New Orleans, LA where, it indicated, that he had been "during the last two months... unfit for duty 60 days, disease of the lungs contracted before entering service." The certificate goes on to state that he was "incapable of performing the duties of a soldier because of asthma of several years standing accompanied with a decided feebleness of constitution which renders him totally unfit for the service," thus not eligible for a pension, and was signed by Harrison Gore (?), Major.

By 1898 he had submitted affidavits to prove that he had not had a prior health issue and should receive a pension. The first was provided by George Allen, private in Co. F, 4th Regt of MI Cav. Vol. (Charles Taft's original company) which stated that Charles Taft "while in the military service... on or about Nov 1862 at Lavern near Murfreesburough, TN that at said place said Taft was hurt across the back from a fall from his horse and a drizzly rain followed and the following afternoon when claimant rode into camp near Nashville he was so disabled from said fall that this deponent and others had to assist claimant from his horse who was entirely helpless from said injury to his back and claimant was soon after taken to the hospital..." The second affidavit (above) was sent in by Samuel Brown, aged 60, of Raisen, MI which stated: "That he well knows the above named claimant - Charles L Taft - and knew him in the summer of 1861 just before his enlistment in the service. That said Taft commenced to work for the deponent in the summer of 1861 on deponent's farm in Raisin in said county, that he worked for deponent in the summer of 1861 and boarded with deponent and went to school in the winter of 1861-2 and during this time although he was quite young he did a good days work and did all kinds of heavy work for me on my farm, and during the summer of 1861 and the following winter claimant appeared perfectly healthy and rugged never had any sickness of any kind while he was with me and to all appearances he was free from asthma or any other kindred diseases as far as my observation goes. If he had been troubled with such disease I should have known of it and observed it - that after his discharge the first time he came to my house and made his home with me and at that time he was perfectly healthy and was free from asthma or other disease. That during the summer of 1863 he worked a farm near me and I occasionaly saw him until his enlistment again in the fall of 1863 and up to said enlistment in fall of 1863 I knew him to be perfectly healthy and free from asthma and like diseases."

We would hope that Charles Leroy Taft ultimately won his case and received the pension he deserved for the years of service he provided his country.

In Memoriam



John Taft Chaffey

Dr. John T. Chaffey, of Needham, MA at the time, was present at the 120th anniversary of the Taft Family Association in Nov 1994. (TTT 27 p 2)

John Taft Chaffey was born 26 Jul 1927 in Los Angeles, CA, the son of John Richard Eastman Chaffey and Priscilla Cook Taft, and died 21 May 2014 in Bend, OR, aged 86, surrounded by his family. John Chaffey grew up in Palm Springs and was drafted in the US Army in 1945, on his 18th birthday. He completed basic training twice, since the Army lost his paperwork. After serving as an x-ray technician at Fort Lewis, he returned to Stanford on the GI Bill to study medicine.

Upon graduation, he married his first wife, Collette Ferguson, had three children, and taught biology, physics, and chemistry. Later, at McGill Medical School, he found his calling as a physician and met and married his classmate and wife of fifty years, Paula Good Chaffey.

Following residency at Yale, John practiced medicine with the Joint Center for Radiation Therapy in Boston and served on the faculty of the Harvard Medical School.

He was a loving husband, father and grandfather, adored physician and educator. Retiring to Bend in 1999, he enjoyed fishing, photography and living by the Deschutes River. He sang in the Harmoneers Men's Chorus and, his real passion, the Vocal Seniority barbershop quartet, who joined him for a last session just a week before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Paula Chaffey M.D.; his brother, Benjamin Chaffey M.D.; six children: Mark, Jonathon, Erica, Andrew, Howard, and William; eight grandchildren: Peter, Carter, Anicka, Liam, Cole, Hugh, Rachel, and Melanie. He was predeceased by his brother William (Bill).

John Taft Chaffey was the son of John Richards Eastman Chaffey and Priscilla Cook (William Cook, Horatio Nelson, Cheney, Gershom, Peter, Joseph, Robert) Taft.

Photo and obituary from Obits.niswonger-reynolds.com

Prospect Hill Cemetery Gravestones of Taft Family Members (cont. from p. 7, to be cont.)

TAFT	Harold B	20 Jan 1894 – Aug 1918	T	Samuel Berton (1865)
TAFT	Harriet Maria	28 Jul 1832 – 27 Oct 1877	R	Warner (1789)
TAFT	Helen Wheelock	1861 – 1951	T	Ellis Chandler (1831)
TAFT	Henrietta (Jepherson)	1810 – 29 Nov 1889	T	w/o David W (1801)
TAFT	Henrietta Aldrich	1846 – 1895	R	John Read (1826)
TAFT	Henrietta M	1836 – 1918	R	w/o Daniel Waldo (1833)
TAFT	Henry	13 Sep 1819 – 28 Mar 1889	T	Elkanah (1784)
TAFT	Henry Gordon	3 Apr 1832 – 8 Jul 1903	D	Bezaleel (1780)
TAFT	Hopestill (Taft)	12 May 1794 – 14 Mar 1855	T	David (1770)
TAFT	Horace A	10 May 1846 – 31 May 1863	J	Oliver (1812)
TAFT	Ida Louia (Laura)	2 Aug 1861 – 4 Apr 1870	J	Oliver (1812)
TAFT	Infant son	9 Aug 1825 – 9 Nov 1825	R	John (1792)
TAFT	Infant (son)	8 Jul 1844 – 21 Jul 1844	J	Oliver (1777)
TAFT	Irena	25 Oct 1774 – 29 May 1790	J	James (1738)
TAFT	Irene Williams	1828 – 24 Jan 1901	R	w/o John Read (1826)
TAFT	Isaac Dexter	11 Feb 1832 – 7 Mar 1904	B	Eber (1787)

Taft Family Association Officers

President: still searching
Vice President & Genealogist: now searching
Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Allen, 77 Greenfield Rd. , Montague, MA 01351; patmarkallen@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Pat Allen, 77 Greenfield Rd., Montague, MA 01351 patmarkallen@gmail.com
Website Editor: David W. Taft, Alpharetta, GA http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~taft/
Executive Committee: Charles F. Davis Jr., Sally Gagne

Annual dues of $8 per family are due and payable each year on or before June.
(Your dues are paid through the year on your mailing label.)